

MASS TIMES: Bourton (B) Stow (S)

SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Saturday evening 17th Oct: **Vigil Mass 6 pm (B)**. INTENTION: Dominic Eliot, who is ill.

Sunday morning 18th October. **9 am Mass (S)**. INTENTION: Repose of soul of Ada Parkes.

Monday 19th Oct. St. Paul of the Cross. **9 am Mass (S)** INTENTION: Repose of the soul of Peggy Duhig.

Tuesday 20th Oct. Weekday in O.T. **10 am Mass (B)** INTENTION: Repose of soul of Fr. John Boyd Boland, OFM Priest.

Wednesday 21st Oct. **NO MASS AT STOW.** 11 am – 1 pm Parishioners are very welcome to pray and light candles at Our Lady, Help of Christians, Bourton, whilst the coffin of Ted Smith rests in Church. (Come and go). 1.30 pm Funeral Requiem. **Family only.**

Thursday 22nd Oct. St. John Paul II. Pope **10 am Mass (B)** INTENTION: Pope Francis.

Friday 23rd Oct. St. John Capistrano **9 am Mass (S)** INTENTION:

No Mass, as usual, on Saturday morning.

Confessions after any Mass or by arrangement.

NOTICES

TED SMITH, RIP As you will see from the list of Masses, Ted's funeral next Wednesday is private, (due to COVID regulations). However, the family have generously arranged for the Mass to be live streamed, so that friends can be there 'in spirito'. Here is the link: <https://vimeo.com/event/373906>

The link will only go 'live' just before Mass starts.

HOLY SOULS. Envelopes will soon be made available at the back of both churches for the use of Parishioners to leave the names of departed family and friends, who will be remembered (unnamed) at November Masses. Please return the envelopes as soon as possible, and certainly before the end of October, leaving them in the basket provided in church. The envelopes will be placed on the altar throughout the month of November. **Please do not put cash in the envelopes.** If you wish to make an offering, please place it either in the Money Safe at Stow, (Holy Souls) or add it to the Collection basket at Bourton marked 'Holy Souls'.

GRAND DRAW. The draw tickets are with the printers and will be available next week. Please would each parishioner take 5 books and do your best to sell tickets to friends and neighbours outside the parish.

THE PRESBYTERY. I apologise for the difficulty with parking that the faithful who came to week day Masses at Stow this week had to endure. The workmen's vans more or less filled the small car park and worshippers were left chasing round looking for a place to leave their car. The good news is that they are making huge progress with the building and the prospect of a parish facility (WC and office/store in the old garage) with a very lettable house is close.



CHRISTMAS. Christmas Day falls on a Friday this year. Masses will be as follows:

Christmas Eve: The Blessing of the Crib and Vigil Mass (special invitation for children) **6 pm Stow. 'Midnight Mass' 10 pm Stow.**

Christmas Day: Mass of the Dawn. 9 am Bourton. Mass of the Day. 10.30 am Stow. Booking will be necessary and I will announce a system for this shortly. Parking will be no worse than Sundays at Stow and the Square will be available.

We celebrated **ST. TERESA OF AVILA** (1515- 1582) last Thursday. On Patrick van der Vorst's Christian Art website we are reminded that she was born only 20 years after Columbus 'sailed the ocean blue' and she was two when Luther started the Protestant Reformation. She entered the Carmelite order despite strong opposition from her father. Like Jesus, she was a mystery of paradoxes: wise, yet very practical; intelligent, yet much in tune with the world around her; a mystic, yet an energetic reformer; a pious woman, yet outgoing and courageous. Her writings, especially the *Way of Perfection* and *The Interior Castle*, have helped generations of believers. In 1970, the Church gave her the title she had long held in the popular mind: Doctor of the Church. One of the main things she taught her fellow sisters was to think and pray on their own, and to concentrate, in order to hear the Lord, on what she called the 'Interior Castle'. She shared with them that the soul is like a diamond in the shape of a castle containing seven mansions, which reflect the journey of faith, through seven stages, ending with union with God. Patrick's piece showed a picture of her cell: completely bare and ascetic.

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